American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection

Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
January 9, 1927-May 29, 1927

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January 9 - 1927

My blessed Ones:
The best - laid plans of mice and men "gang aft agley" as Burns said + it is surely true. This words may not be readable - but often awry - is as true. Now it is 9:30 + I was going to spend all evening writing you - But a new girl came in just as I came up to see if I would not come to see her mother's + Father's pictures - + talk a minute We had a nice talk on several subjects + I feel it wasn't time wasted at all tho it will delay this a day maybe. I'll write some tonight + finish later. Guess I'd better begin with last Sunday. a good spiritual message

3) Boxer year + he & Mr. Lee said he was a little boy and remembered some of it. The mob decided when the Boxers came not to try to clear home as he was well known anyway he couldn't get away. So the mob went right thru the village + didn't kill a one. It was strictly providential because in the all around many were killed. So he said after he grew up + could understand he felt he was spared for a purpose + therefore entered the ministry. He is surely a splendid man. He was then in America four years — at Drew Seminary (I don't know how it stands but in a later conversation — he asked us where we were from + on our answering "Moody"

2) from the president of the Christian Union of China. He called for a new spiritual life in each one & that as a new emphasis. At the meeting were Dr. Goforth & Dr. Lee - that splendid Chinese Christian leader of students from whom we got our class. He had wanted to meet Dr. Goforth & Mrs. G. for so long so we arranged to have tea there that P.M. It was truly sweet & we had such a good visit. Mr. Lee told us of his conversion. He said he was in a well-known family outside of Peking. He first came to Peking & heard the gospel & was converted - returned home & before long all of the family were converted. They were all living together in old Chinese style. They suffered very great persecution then came the

4 he said "good"; They surely don't try to tear down the church there, and speak of hearing Dr. Gray with such pleasure — so we felt sure of his position on that line. I am sure his work with students should bring great results! Please pray for him. The student class are no difficult at present

As we left that P.M. he asked Betty + me to come to his home for supper the next night. We were wanted also so much to see the inside of a Chinese home + then too they have a new little baby about a month old, named Grace (also has a Chinese name) so it was with such great joy that we accepted. He explained to our rickshaw men how to find the place. It was such fun to get [illegible]

5] to Chinese lessons + see our teachers and especially our head teacher "Clement" — but we were so eager to go to Mr. Lee's the day seemed a bit long. They have quite a nice church + his home is beside it. The church is a bit foreign in style but the Chinese home is quite unchanged all are rooms built around an open court. We went into living room (cold — no fire — stone floors. It had a big table covered with books some rolls and some tables and chairs around the wall — flat against the wall — Then we went into adjoining room — to see the baby — just so sweet, darling + oh so tiny. In that room was a stone — not very big — bed + Mr. Lee's study. It wasn't hard to admire the baby in proper

7] little cakes & tea without which no meal is complete. It is served last & not with the meal at all. Then Mr. Lee had to go to a Student meeting & left us with her. She waited in China for him - can understand a little English but speaks less. We sat around the fire - exhausted all our words in Chinese & hers in English - looked at the baby lots & then came home. It was a nice evening & Mrs. Lee sung "Amen" - That means when you know they go to the gate & you must keep saying, "Pu sung" — please go back etc - She insisted she would call & show us to the rickshaw.

Ah, on the way, doing I want to tell you what came — bless your sweet heart that

4 Chinese style for she was so sweet! An amah came to tell us supper was ready — & the invitation was just an ordinary Chinese supper - We ate in a small room with small red lacquer tables just big enough for four. At our places were small plates, chop sticks & a spoon. Before each was a plate of food - cabbage & meat ground together & wrapped in dough & boiled It was good — a vinegar too helped it — We ate & would not dare say how many & then had soup (with vegetable & slippery clear macaroni like food which had a most amazing way of sliding off the chop sticks - Then Chinese cakes & tea. Sesame seeds in a sugar frosting make the best

& Kodak is a perfect beauty - with such a nice case-all I really don't know enuf to really appreciate it but I said later - Mr. Walter has said it is very fine + he knows about them. Thank you dearest ones - how I do just get all choked up in my throat when I think of how good you all are to me + can only thank my dear father in heaven for all of you. I'll try soon to get a letter off to [redacted] + to Eula in answer to her wonderful letter of Christmas but till then send this on to them to thank them for their part. I haven't taken any yet but I will soon + I hope I can get some real good ones - It will be a real help in the work here + to get pictures

9 of interesting scenes & folks. so far have only borrowed films. I hope soon to get at the street scenes. Letter but our time is so full, & each day I should put more time in on character and writing than I am. That was such a splendid Christmas gift - all were the boxes, the magazines & all!!

Tues. P.M. after school I went back out to the reception to visit the friends, & had a chat with Mrs. Smith. Wed. P.M. went to a Mrs. Wood's for tea & then stopped to visit Mrs. Gafarth. Dr. G. was just leaving for Mongolia. It was good to see them but we hate to have him gone. Thurs. night I studied late on character. Friday

1 gin or 1⅓ lb. Price varies from $2 – $30 a gin. This is $10.00 a gin. So yours is ½ gin or 5.00 mex – delivered at wholesale rate – Make it by pouring boiling water over it. In the shop he used cup – without handles + put in tea, poured boiling water on it, + covered it with paper for a while till it steeped enuf – then asked me to smell it. I did like its fragrance. Do not use much. It would be a lovely clear yellow in color. I thought you'd like to give a tea some day or have it for missionary society. Betty sent her mother some. I forgot to tell you the duty + octroi (war tax of Changsha is $5.85 Mex. not bad was it. Tell me how much you have to pay on the tea. Then we

a group had guests + wanted us to go with them to a restaurant for Chinese food. It is the group of girls who dance + we felt we should go when it was something we could go to without compromise. It was fun too.

Sat - I went out early for adventure + to buy tea for your birthday mother dearie. The rickshaw men, a few I mean, were going to each + we had such a big conversation on the way. They asked me where I was going + were so interested about the tea and all. This little shop was quite interesting they let me sample it before I bought. I thought you'd like to know a bit about it - make it more interesting. It is the famous flower tea or jasmine tea of southern China. They sell it by the

12/ went to Embroidery Street to buy Betty a fur coat + any worm rugs. There were two - want to make a nice big rug bed size for future goat rugs - so nice + he wanted $15 - + I paid P10. I cajoled, cursed all my Chinese, + every thing but he was adamant so I went away + got a mat so nice tho for my price I still feel sorry to have missed those - Chinese bargaining is getting me!

Sat. Eve. wrote letters + Sun. I do declare I feel almost swamped sometimes but for a few am A-K. now - yours suffered a bit for them!

Am inclosing a sample of lovely silk we saw in Clock Shop today - Betty said "That looks like the kind your mother could wear + I bet one thing

[3] of you my dearest pretty
music is your pretty white
hair & low voiced kind look
It is $1.00 Mex $3.50 init bad
gold & 27" wide. Better invest.
Too am enclosing a picture
of our pantze riding. This
is Betty & a rather typical
Chinese coolie. Too will
put in the Chow Chang copy
for Sadie's kid if you want
it. I sent Sulu one in telling
her about what I did with
cards.

I'll close. now it is bed-
time & I must get some Chinese
Studied. Nite night my
blessed loved ones; how
I praise Him for all of
you & your love & prayers!!

Will enclose the Board
letter - I expect it is all taken

15 might write out to Permission to hear Dr. Johnson tell about their country work out from Peking. It was interesting & so inspiring. It seemed as I came home just in a halo of glory — from it all — To think of the privilege of being here to help with that work! I am so happy that is to be my work! This plan is just like the one suggested by a Chinese leader this week here in an address. They are closing a few regular chapels which have been prayed for by Board & putting it up to the Chinese Christians to do for themselves — like Paul's "church in the house" etc. It will seem hard at first but is the right policy surely. There is almost no work for the

14 care of by now. Thank
you. Glad Clyde was down
nice for him + you too!
Sorry Bill is so sick. It
is amusing about his liking
that room - well it is
his home - why not? You've
not rented any rooms this
year? Glad Leo is getting
along so well. + how happy
I am about Bud's new job!
I knew it would come!
That is so sweet of
always to remember. It surely
does help her to know so
many are holding the ropes.
I am eager to hear if all
things got there for your Christmas
+ about the tea + duty -
That is sweet of you all
to hunt the picture for Betty
Yesterday after tea had mail
a good skate + then at

16 women + children = that is one big need, to reach the literati etc. He told of many places with one or two Christians + how they are persecuted, not physically but otherwise + how they are standing so staunch + fine. His great emphasis is on the gospel too. It was fine to know what is the work + how it is done. He said there isn't the slightest trace of anti foreign feeling there yet. The people are almost impoverished as the famine comes spread out over the country like a fan - as a huge band of locust + eat till all is gone + moves on.

I have a couple of ideas in mind will mention but don't know - I'm considering going to live in a Chinese home + also if I can go with

Jan. 6-1927
Sun. eve.

Dearest Ones:

So for have been using just that old rubbish writing paper so I'll use a sheet of this anyway to let you see how pretty Chinese paper is. It is the only Chinese paper we've found that we can use ink on. Betty found it out at Yenching University + brought me some. Her friend came thru Japan recently and sent quite a number of tablets of Japanese paper - it really is lovely too and all can have ink used on it. We've found beautiful paper down in the market but we can't use Chinese ink — nor their pens — yet in about five years maybe —

Late getting your letter off again as it is late now 9:30 so will write only a little tonight. This has been rather a quiet uneventful week end in some ways Friday night we went skating. Harriett Strah from Betty's station Huaiyuan, the daughter of the Mr. Strah who answers questions in M.B.J. monthly came on Thursday to be here for two weeks — to visit Betty + have a rest + see a Doctor. She had'nt skated for so long so enjoyed it so much. They can't skate at their station — I'm wondering if we can - ours is as far south as here - Time

will t[illegible]turday. I washed my hair + studied Chinese - had a good time for sure - while it dried - had a most exciting note in the mail from the girl who is to d[illegible] out in the country to do country work + take two girls from the Bible school she is teaching for practical experience. I wrote her about my going along. See I'm not at all sure anyone will be out visiting to start me I do so want the additional experience - without the responsibility. Her note came rambling she was more than willing but had to refer the request to the Dr. Johnson to whom I referred in the last letter. She came up Sat. P.M. and we talked it over a bit. Oh! I want so to go - I'm just leaving in the Lord's hands - as it plans. For my point of view I think it splendid but I don't know - more of this when I know about it. I feel sure I can miss the time after miss class for illness + get it made up - besides I'd love ten days of for more Chinese than we get here + real practice using what I have. Can have some private work too to make it up maybe before I go. Can see some of the Chinese new year festivities - as that will be just at that time. - Chinese new year is the one time of the year they

3 take off to celebrate really
shops close for a week,
all pay up bills at that
time and have many kinds
of festivities. Mr. Lee said
he'd take us to see some
of them. A girl here said it
is an especially difficult time
for Christians as many of the
festivities involve the old
idol worship and ancestor
worships - It is hard to
stand sometimes. - I'll write
more of that as I know about
it. Sat we went to skate
+ had a good time - tried
to see Mrs. Gopaul who hasn't
been quite so well recently
been overdoing but got
mixed in the lifting - street
but got to practise some
recent words in making
inquiries so maybe time
wasn't lost either.

5
till they can't be worn at all.

In the P.M. a girl wanted me to go out so we took a few pictures = the first use of the new camera. We've seen some amusing - the sensible practices recently. As soon as it begants snow most of or many of coolies + rickshaw men put on straw hats. There was every style conceivable + they were worn at most audacious angles. Some one wide-brimmed others narrow, some foreign others seemingly from no country - just hats - all seem old have that brownish color which age gives - The usual mode is to wear a wool cap underneath + then perch the hat on top of it. Another method

4 Sun A.M. had a good time playing hymns tiddlechuck time - then went to P.U.M.C. to hear the Salvation Army Colonel speak - it was very good too. Since Sat it has been snowing almost continuously and we've had about 5" of snow - most unusual for Peking Someone said biggest snow in his eleven years here. Last year only had a flurry in March. Really the country is lovely, all the ugly dirt covered up - But when it melts it will be awful - The poor rickshaw men will suffer worst - The Chinese shoes are cloth + not the least waterproof + of course the rickshaw men are in it all the time + have no protection besides the wet spoils the shoes

6] in to tie what looks like a dish cloth over the top of the hat which is ordinarily worn + draped over the shoulders + tied in front — really quite a sensible method after all. — Save the hat. The Japs have been a myriad of umbrellas out during this snow — Some big enuf to cover four folks. — yesterday we saw a fat man riding a little donkey + carrying an umbrella. Too a cooly leading an ox pulling a cart + he carried an umbrella The fact that none of the umbrella had holes large enuf for 50 snow flakes at once didn't seem to matter. This reminds me of a girl from Betty's station who was carrying

4] one a the fairly large umbrellas in New York P. She noticed many looking at her but went on — at last a policeman stopped her to make her put it down as N. Y. has a law regulating the size of umbrellas. He wouldn't even let her put it half down but she must buy a new one. It must have been funny.

Wed P. M. — want to hurry this off as mail closes tomorrow A. M. & want this to go — even if I do not have all in it that I wish to say — don't want it late. Our days have been full — many new words & I've tried to study some more. Then have skated each P. M. Skating won't

9| darkie in war was applying to work in a munitions factory they asked his name, address etc + he wondered why! Well the said "If there is any accident we want to know where to sent the remains." "Well Sah," say the darkie, "never you mind I se taking my remains out now as far as I can" Your letter of Dec 12 + 20 came this week + I did just devour them. Letters make you seem so near + sometimes — well, it is mighty good to get them + have such wonderful folks! Eager to hear more of Mr + Mrs. Hansen + if that splendid work for Mrs. Hodge is doing? I am glad + pray often for her. Bless the twins — I'll bet they do miss grandma + grandpa Little hearts have to learn early sometimes don't they the pain of separation which

& last much longer but I want to get in as much as possible.

The other day Dr. Ingram told us funny negro stories. One was of the officers trying to persuade a darkie to join the cavalry - But he answered - "I if I'se in a battle I doesn't want to be impedimented by no hoss."

A darkie was seasick & a friend came up asked where he was from he said "I'se from Baltimore but if I ever get back - I'll never be from there again" A darkie preacher was introducing a great speaker on temperance who was coming. He said, "He'll tell the intemperate how to be temperate - the intelligent how to be intelligent - the industrious how to be industrious!" - Another

Bequal return of joy — they forget it easily (the pain I mean) Mumsie the things you get for boys + all were so nice I'm sure they'd like them. The Roseburg news I enjoyed so Sorry twins have no place to play. The Installation Service surely had an array of ministers — must have been properly installed! That was nice! I enjoyed the bulletin too so much! Eula told me too of the house etc — I'll try to write her soon. Bless your heart, Mumsie darling to get up so early to write me with all the other you had to do. My heart gave a leap of joy when I saw the post mark as I knew you'd been there to visit

Sun. a. m. Jan. 30. 1927

Dearest Eula + Ray + babies!

That was sure a wonderful Christmas letter - I think it deserves an answer all by itself - You might like a Chinese stamp too to give to some little boy - so I'll put in some more of the Belgian Congo ones which came a week or two ago. - That was funny from one of Moody friends + the letter had been sent + lost in a very interesting place before he said he'd been expecting me to come to attend - the water entirely blotted it out - How curious I don't know what it might have been then! Ha! - That might have relieved your worry about someone to look after me. Pay you tickle me! If I were as worried over it as you I'd be miserable! See I'm not making the plans!

How I enjoyed the "package" The picture was killing I never saw anything funnier! I kept the song too alive no + Mr. Hood picture blank upon no more! I was so glad for the details of home, church, furniture, moving, reception etc. I am surely glad that you no nice to you + Mother your visit splendid reports too! I am so happy for it all! May you indeed be watered gardens for

that whole community - God
Bless you with a unity of spirit
in every detail! The program
of that Sunday mother sent, along
with installation (Ryan are you sure
there were enuf ministers present
to make it official) I wondered
if all had had an exodus down
to help - Anyway, it must have
been splendid!! I am glad
for the large membership, the
choir director, and all Hall!!!
May every move + act be in
the Power of the Holy Spirit.
I do remember you + shall con-
tinue to! Enclosed I read the letter
episode to Betty - it must have
been amusing.

Hope you can get someone
good to keep the babies - so
you can call - It will leave
you freer to for personal work.
I know what pets they'd be
in the church. But I hope
you won't let them spoil
them - + whoever you get to
keep them - be sure they
mind etc. Really - I think
sometimes kiddies are cute
as they + living in public
all the time + petted get

an almost unfair handicap for later life - because of being spoiled - then comes the time the spoiled child isn't cute + then the dear parishoners who spoiled them call them "bad boys" + the traditional ministering son is there - I'm not awfully worried over the boy, dear up- but I just was "a thinkin" - you see I've reached the stage of "auntihood" in which I know how to raise a family !!!!! Eula am so glad for your class!! It amuses me no that all the letters are printed in yoodling - but if they can help all right. !!

I suppose you're reading the China news these days - probably getting more these days - + wondering if all you get is true - we do the same. I do wonder what you are hearing. Guess I'll enclose the week's news summary in today's news of all things I hope for no war - + I wish America would be more willing to junk treaty revision. I hesitate to say much, for by time I get news written it's old + maybe just reversed + so I've said little. Mr. Lew said this a.m. that it is surely a grave time for the church + the break of Christianity's connection with treaties is most important because the treaties give protection to Chinese Christians

from foreign powers etc.
Did Blitzcourse maybe at length
+ wid be no more near a
solution so I'll stop on
that.
Thank you more than I can
ever tell for your part in the
wonderful Kodak! It is a beauty
and how I appreciate it!! That
meant a sacrifice I know -
may He take it for His glory +
give real fruit for your sacri-
fice. Have taken some pictures
but no so many as I'd like
will try to get a lot over the
Chinese New Year. That is this
week. I'll write a copy letter
of it - after I know more + see
what happens. Ray I don't
know what to write for S.S. or
any of the various epistles or
copies wreable for S.S. I'll
see This is Jap paper - using frogs
for babies - Winfield that was a fine
letter you put in Grandma's Was
so glad folks were down! They
did enjoy it so much!! No
ones says how they are - are
they well - what about Daddy
Sis's cough? So glad too you
got Bim to get mattis dress -
it is lovely! How folks wish
miss

and have missed you in Woodburn! We'll be so interested in the new man to hear about it all!
I had a letter from De Etta written in Oct. - all were same, Eula, do you suppose moving will keep the boxes from coming from L's or is the "feather" a sign that it will continue? I hope things are easier with Bud & Bessie now. What a time they've had - But my we see such a margin talks like on her - just nothing - how I don't see!
Want to stop now & get Leo a note off the letter home too! How I wish Lillie would write themselves. I want to write so much & so many but it isn't possible

(Ah Ha this is a used sheet - sorry —

Skating has been excellent since before Christmas + I've used and enjoyed my new skates much!

Yenching School of Chinese Studies
Peking
December 27, 1926.

We were out to Yenching University yesterday + saw the buildings and had tea in a lovely chinese home - which beautiful furniture and lovely things.

Now I must stop now with just heaps of love to all. Thank you so for the nice christmas + all: Send a copy of christmas letter home - (I never know who all sees letters or what they say - but I know mumie dear tries to get them around) Spirit she a precious mumie + dearest Daddy Si - I do love them! + you dearest Sister - I love you sweet you + Ray love always Irene

Ps. Read I Sam 3:21 + think Rosebury not Shiloh - you not Samuel. Love - Irene

Sun Eve.
Feb. 13, 1927.

My dearest Ones;

Well this is Sun. Eve. again and not a word written before today. I thought I'd write so much today. Right after breakfast one of the girls came up & stayed about 2 hrs. We did love a rave & talk - She is of the Lutheran Board & is such a fine spiritual girl - We went to church then - Nancy wanted me to go with her so I did - It was one of the best services I've heard in China - a Mr. Samuel Lin a Chinese from the Anglican mission over in West city - His topic was "Back to the Bible" and it surely was a staunch, plain, outspoken sermon on the word of God as wholly inspired & revealing God's Christ crucified for Sin -

3/ something after all". I can rejoice in a little change but oh the Lord will just have to work out His will thru prayer. Then this A.M. right after dinner I went to see Margaret (the other of the two, who was in bed with a cold, then off to see Betty & Esther at the hospital. All week that has been about my program: classes in the A.M. and go to the hospital at once - stay till six - walk back by seven for dinner & then study in the evening. For two days Betty was quite sick - about has been improving since then. She is there still & will be for most likely a week or more. They haven't really found the cause of her trouble at all. The bad

2/and Christ the solution of the ills of the world. It was so fine and just did my soul good! I was glad for it. — after the Sun. a. m. service on of little spiritual value many leads to us quite modern in her views + didn't exactly agree I know. I had her say something to one of the doctors of P. U. M. C. afterwd + his remark was that "that attitude (Mr. Lin's) would be very satisfying to those who could hold it + he sometimes wished he could." Since Betty has been in the hospital it seems there has been a softening in the attitude of these two girls - I can't really describe it - but two nights Nancy + I have had prayer together and she asked for it last night — She said one night "Irene, we really want the

headaches continue to annoy her so + sinus is cleared up. I do hope she will soon be better. They feel maybe when she is out she ought to leave Peking as it seems particularly hard on her nose trouble. But I hope she will soon be well!
Your letter of Jan 9. I haven't answered yet - am glad you got two letters one week to make up for the long times I wonder what you are reading about our war news - Just think a Dr. + wife + four kiddies surely all under 6 came in from Tianfu - the city under such a long siege - I don't heard any of the accounts of their adventures - but my the kiddies are real cheeked. I opened my door

5] just time to go down to supper & there was a baby crawling down the hall - so cute !! We've quite a family of children here now 14 now in this hostel. Last week a Dr. & family returned from furlough but will not go on into Honan just now. At last we see the is going against the Southern army in the north under Feng. He's been going to for months - so the papers said. We were so amused yesterday - The postoffices were all closed for an official holiday celebrating the union of the North and South - Imagine with absolute division now - taking time off to celebrate the union! This goes back to Revolution of 1911 etc !

7] Thank you for the pictures - they came through nicely but I haven't seen the stamp as yet - but it will come! Surely, I'll get lots of good from it I know - Thank you I didn't get a coat - I haven't needed it & I feel it would have been an extravagance. I'll get a fur lining for a Chinese coat for the field later. I am glad you heard Dr. Allen! Am glad too the silk picture is pretty framed & the little tray will be nice. I was just thinking of your tea. Enclosed last week we had a tea lesson & "Dearest" said to have water boiling well & then wait just a minute or two after it stops to pour on the tea - to put it on boiling is not good - Put water on to

4] To the Chinese I guess it doesn't seem in the least inconsistent! I wonder if the southerners in Civil War celebrated July 4. it would be a bit like, but not :: so really. I hope that the sentiment of U.S. will force U.S. to take immediate constructive steps in abrogation of treaties — so far it seems much talk! Glad you went with Bud to Portland & had a visit with Brubaker. Too bad about him!
I do trust by now Bud's cannery work is all settled & he is in a good place!! I do know he will have one for our prayers will be answered!
You have your new preacher now & I do pray he will be richly blessed & used.

& not tea into water - while it steeps be sure it is covered. Your speaking of daffodils most makes me homesick & love them so. We've had quite pretty chinese lilies in bloom in the room - got the bulbs over at the fair; glad you ~~heard from~~ Dr Etta safe.

This may ratter surprise you but I think I'll move out to a chinese home for a month's trial for benefit of language. I'll put more in it later.

Did I tell you I couldn't go to the country. Dr. J. felt it not worth while as the country language is no different & only real visitation & no meetings - so I'll go calling in Peking sometime with

If Peggy + maybe in the Spring go out to the country. I must write Sarah - about the darling fellow which came in such good shape - just how it had a chance at all - you tell her if you see her.

I'll add some more tomorrow dearest ones - I must get in bed now. Good night my most precious loved ones!

Tues Eve

Guess where I am - all settled in a new home as I mentioned for a month's trial - It has been quite exciting. We talked of it for a while & Sarah "this is fine" & rowed with Mayhew was going with another lady + Betty + I coming here but since Betty's future is so uncertain + Sarah's other place wasn't open we came down to see this place last week - then again yesterday + made the

11 teachers said it was a fine thing to do - others wondered. It is a foreign house with lights, bath & steam heat which is broken so we have a stove in each room. It will be warm enuf as it is getting warmer now. A Chinese man and wife live here - they have no children at all. So far I know he works in some bank. Whether they are christians or not I do not know

Sarah got the room thru a Chinese girl with whom she roomed 3 years while she trained at P.U.M.C. + This Miss Chen is a very fine friend of a christian worker here - so she may be christian -

Anyway she is perfectly lovely so sweet + nice - So fat + round + jolly looking + one just has the feeling that

10 final arrangements - went home to pack up. I am still keeping my room there - under this rather queer arrangement - still pay room rent that is the Board does - all my things moved out in order if necessary to let someone else use it - had I moved out entirely - had to take everything + may-be not get my room back if I want to return - as it is our board + room here on $55. including laundry for a month + then we had to pay $60 more board so it will cost less even if the room still is kept there. That was such a funny - rule - must pay for room but can't use it. Otherwise if they couldn't use it I'd have to pay $30 board then too! Moving seemed to cause quite a commotion

if you needed to weep about something she would just be such a nice motherly comfortable person! We both just loved her at first— I've not seen the husband yet. I announced at the table about leaving & a man there— a Russian future diplomat— they speak of him as the Bolshevik— who is there— doesn't speak very much English, I guess he understands it but often doesn't talk much, kept saying over & over "So we won't see you anymore"— This is the last day etc "It was amusing for I'll be at school each day— It seems like a very momentous occasion— like the beginning of a new chapter in life— One would think I was leaving for America to hear them say "good bye" —

13/ Amuses me to think it it: Wang is my room boy + this week's table boy. He looked quite distressed when I told him but said it was a good plan to learn to talk - He is the best boy anyway - Today followed me around + asked if he couldn't go with me + work for me. It was funny. Then now - the table boy when I sat fully six weeks heard I was leaving + came up to ask me if he couldn't go with me to work. Wang just did everything to day to help + insisted in the future I give him work. It was sweet - I thought as I came along Hatamen with my two rickshas of things preceding me - it is a

15/in a silk coat; it's a bit
older than she! He looked at
your pictures + at the various
things! + after we talked a
while — he bowed + left!
Supper last night was
amusing. She + he had been
invited out so we were
alone — with our slippery
chopsticks — did I say
alone? — with the table
bay watching each move
+ from the place I sat I
could see thro the serving
window an old amah +
your woman + they were
missing much of us or
the performance. I recalled
someone saying — "you
must be accustomed to
eyes wherever you go". The
old amah was sweet —
+ was wearing quite a
gay little red flower in her
sandly
queer-like headdress on her

14 new chapter in life here
One hope of new spread
in talking of new
love for the Chinese, of
more understanding of them
and their hearts - If I
feel it worth while to stay
longer than a month I will.
at first I hated idea of
moving I was so comfortable
there + had up my new cur-
tains (Mary's) + new spread
+ rug - but I caught my-
self right up "I didn't come
to China to be comfortable
only + if I'm so sat" in my
ways I can't move - it is
time I did + Bernade + we will be
very comfy here. (+ here Sara came
in + I stopped) as I was ready
for bed in came the wife +
husband They are very nice
+ eager to make us comfortable
he was very nicely dressed

Wed. P.M.

16/ little knot of hair on the back of her head. Our food was good, rice, cabbage soup, meat wrapped in bean curd & steamed & a meat & clear kind of macaroni-like food which reminds me of the Korean girl description of "Kaaksu". Then rice candy for dessert: for breakfast - a bowl of hot stew of meat - I liked it really, a kind of bread toasted with butter & honey-Butter (a foreign concession) & chipped beef & some vegetable a bit like french fried potatoes in appearance. We brought lunch of sandwiches & peanuts & an orange & tea. It surely is interesting & I hope will be worthwhile. Now don't worry about

17 me for by the time you get
this I'll be back at the hotel
if I'm not happy there or
food doesn't agree etc !!
The house door opens on
the street but front door
on a court with a lovely
stone garden arrangement
- a fountain + trellis etc -
will be lovely in Spring.
Today is the lantern
festival + will finish
that new year letter
+ get it in the next mail
I hope! At least that is
our plan. This event ends
the New Year celebrations.
Am enclosing a couple
of news strips - one a
weekly summary - the
other is amusing. Chang Ho-
Lin's men went to Hsinan to
help W w Pei drive out
Southerners + the men at

We Pris for how fought those who came to help them! It is surely a puzzle to guess what wil be next!

Must get this mailed as is the a.m. it must go — must stop now to study some — been rather interrupted of late. Betty still in hospital. Needs long rest. I am so sorry about it.

Dearest ones, your love + prayers means such loads to me more than I can ever tell. May He who walks with us day + give such joy in our hearts and peace reveal the value of it all to you as my words cannot —

Bye + loads of love —

Love.

Love to all.

Sun. 9. M.
Feb. 27-27

My deepest loved Ones;

Here a full week has gone tl I cannot tell my visit with you! Am sorry but will try to make up time now. It seems time is just too short for all the things in life - I never saw the like. Betty is still at P.U.M.C. so that of course accounts for much of my rush. I've gone each day from 4-7 to see her + barely get back for supper - study a little + bed time - get up early to get off + be gone all day. She has had a really serious time for so long they could find no cause for her intense pain in her head as it

3] be quiet + rest and build ups. They want her to leave the dust of Peking as soon as she is able - probably will go to her station, unit duty there. It does seem too bad but Rom 8:28 is still good so somehow it will be for the best. It will be worth it if she gets well + lucky now after it. Mrs. Johnston where she will stay has goats so she can drink that milk and rest + build up. Yesterday we packed her junk and got it moved. Sarah really did the biggest part of it. Surely if there was ever a full day yesterday was. There was a Y.M.C.A. entertainment in eve. with stunts from

2] kept on after the sinus infection was cleared up - at last they found roots of teeth - (uppers all extracted) had worked up to the cheek bone + infected the inside of it - both sides so had to cut open the gums + get the root out + away the bad bone + clear out the pus. They felt they now have the cause of all her troubles - headaches, etc - so we are glad it is over. They operated two different days). She surely has suffered lots but been so patient and sweet thru it all. At two o'clock I'll go + take her out to the West Compound of the mission. A family there has a room + she can

4 various countries - they wanted me to play guitar for a couple of songs - as a group of campfire girls - so in a.m. had to practise it + help pack, then home for lunch at back for 2 o'clock the teacher's annual Party for us which lasted till 4 - + then supper (stayed at school) + then the Y. M. C. A. — I surely was glad to get home after my part - I left. - So am glad for a wee bit of free time this a.m. will stay all P.M with Betty + unpack for her.

I want to tell you about the Teacher's Party. It was a sort of return for the Christmas party we gave but we felt we surely were for outdone in hospitality. They have it

7 hurs. Eve.

Dearest mother: Your good letter came today. I'll hurry to add this note & mail yours for last week so you'll not be missing a week either. You are so sweet to love one here for me each week. I was so glad to hear & get the Woodburn Independents & read about Eula & Ray's farewell's etc! I do know how you'll be missing them as will all of Woodburn I am eager to hear from them about the church, manse and all!!!

Mumsie dearest, this little note is for you — I love you so & ah my precious dearest parents how can I ever tell you how much you mean. Bless you & Daddy Si my heart just longs for you & how I love you — God keep you safe & well! my blessed ones!

was squeezing out ice water
I began getting such queer
cramps as afraid - I hated it
+ it was so funny gone down to
care for her + she was so sick +
then have to curl up in the
chair with cramps (I slept
for 30 min + then was o.k but
I sure need just helpless for that
time. Will laughed about my
going to be moral support!
+ then failing to support !!
a friend once went with Betty
to get her teeth pulled +
Betty was fine but the
friend fainted! - This was a
bit like that - will surely
laughed over it - don't worry
over this - (I'd not have told
you but for you to enjoy
the humor of it from K.O.
+ will be). Will got Betty
back from hospital + are having
a hard time keeping folks
out to let her rest. All are

The book Pastor Hri I loaned
to Bessie to read she must
not have understood
about returning it but
she has it dear!
Glad Sarah was there!! How
nice to see her + others -
So Eula wants you to go to
Roseburg - well dear I
know I'd miss you
+ all but if you want to
go - + will there you know
I'd feel just for you to do
as you wish !! If you'd
be happier with them why
go!. I'll admit I fear the
apartment house would'nt
do for long - Thank Mrs.
Norman for the sweet
message it is so lovely
of all to remember me.
The funniest thing happened
last morning when I was helping
Betty - water reload + and

so kind they want to stay in + so many comes - guess its my duty now to go down to get them out so she can get to bed! Then I did it + the process of getting to bed is on. The girl who is the nurse is now getting her ready. Actually folks stayed in the till after ten last night so we decided it wouldn't be so tonight.
Good night dearest ones! How I love you. How I praise Him for sending me here to China I just love it - but oh how close I all of us need to walk with Him! But He never fails in the least things He is so ever present + sweet. I surely praise Him + long so for the time I can feel I can be of real service to Him + to these folks we do love true in Christ
Good nite darling ones —
Love — — Irene.

Pyengyang, Korea
May 29, 1927

My Precious Mumsie:

Your letters of Apt. 27 & May 3 enclosing Bessie's & Eula are both here! I am so thankful for the details in them & all you've told me! The news that the cable was arriving got thru all right was good & the letter you risked hoping it would come allright did! I'm glad to be here if that made even a little less of a burden & strain at such a time. I hoped it might relieve latter after I first knew of his feeling badly. I am so glad mumsie you were so kept from worry about me. Ah mumsie, you are so brave !! I just must be - most of the time I am - but ah - if I just could put my head on your shoulder

hath most to give" — I surely have had little suffering + such a blessed home + life has been + kind — How much to be thankful for + even this I know I am thankful for — out of it all — because it is God's perfect will! Oh! I am amazed at the glory sometimes as I think of where Father dear is + he is before God, Holy, complete, + perfect + in His image. As I've read all the details of how the sickness did affect his mind how I praise God he didn't have months + long years of wasting away + misery + pain. It was sweet to go so. Heaven is richer with my Daddy Sit there: my heart broken + empty Hit just filled + comforted with that sweet even nearer sense of His + Daddy Sit's presence. He does not wish me to grieve but he

2 right now and let the awful-
lump in my throat + hurting
place in my heart cry itself
out I'd give most anything!
The folks here are so lovely
and the Heavenly Father is so
good + preciously sweet to
me that I am most ungrate-
ful I know to even write
this way + make it harder
for you! I can manage pretty
well till I try to write to your
home folks - then it seems
seeping up must go + the lid
come off to let my heart out -
How can folks without Christ
stand the hurt! I am so thank-
ful tho for all His grace + it
is sufficient + with each deeper
test we know Him better -
a line of poetry I came across
this a.m. rather helped -

"He whosoever suffereth most

+ knows how I loved him!

Mumsie precious are you well + where are you now + all! Do be careful + rest lots - I hope Les could be with you a while - by time you get this you'll be thinking of some vacation trip go with Eula + Roy + have a nice rest.

I'm so glad you visited Warren + had the consultations + the elders prayer + all. It was sweet + all was done! That helps! I haven't written Warren yet - Mumsie without Christ how is he feeling about it — he couldn't come could he? I did enjoy the messages from + of the twins + their animal making etc! Bless their hearts!! It was sweet of so many to be praying for Father - may his going bring some more near Him! How good all could be there with you + help you + be with Daddy Li + that he recognized them — Oh! we're so much

to be thankful for - we just can't begin to count all the blessings.

May 29th

This past week end I went up to Chaniyung Station. You can find it in the prayer book. Harriett Strah's aunt & cousin visited there a Lake tourist whose her family belong support them so Mrs. R. K. Smith wrote her to bring two friends alone. Betty & I went & had a most enjoyable week end! I felt it harder even to go but all insisted I should see a small station here etc - so I went. They met us at the function in a Dodge Sedan & it was a most marvelous drive over! They had saved to buy a cheaper car & gifts at home, made it possible for this one - which acts too as ambulance etc - as Dr. Smith has hospital etc. We rode thru rolling country to the station. The road was

7 curious right to see him running on top of this little wheel! The wild flowers of Korea are quite remarkable they have azalias, lilies of the valley growing wild in the hills wild peonies, iris, lilac & others which we cultivate at home. The compound in Chairyung is on a hill overlooking the straw - thatched mud houses of the Koreans which seem to be huge mushrooms squatted in the valley. We bought the hill & Koreans said it was just valueless & would take nothing whatever - They have cultivated & planted & a lovely hillside it is with tall poplars, fruit trees, shrubs of all kinds & flowers - a winding road lined with flowers - it is beautiful indeed! The houses

& lined part way with rice fields. It was most interesting to see them getting the water from the adjoining ditch to flood these sunken fields. Two ways we saw. One was - from tall poles was hung a huge spoon like hollowed log which a man swung from the ditch, scooped up water & then poured into the field. Saying spoon may make up this it a small contraption but it was fully 7 feet long and each dip would take several buckets-full of water. The other way was also interesting a small waterwheel lifted the water over into the field - the paddles were so arranged that a man ran on the paddles to turn the wheel! It was a

& are built in Korean style
— with tile roofs with graceful
curving eaves. many are al-
most covered now with ivy.
Inside our room had great
beams with plaster in between
up in the ceiling. The station
was opened in 1906 by Mr.
Hunt (with Mr. Lee) who
showed us over the schools,
& churches on Mon. A.M. It
has grown wonderfully. There are
2 large churches with Sunday
schools, a boys academy of about
100, small girls academy, a
Kindergarten, and Primary
School all controlled & support-
ed by the Koreans. It was
so interesting to see the S.S.
men, women & children meet
separately — to make room —

9| the men first[150] then women[300] and Kiddies 150 - The Kiddies with brilliant colored clothes are a picture. The principles of self-support are adhered to more strictly here than elsewhere with seeming success the Koreans often ask why other places get money given. The house in which the Smiths live was built by the Sharps whom Bess + Bud spoke of as sinister at Monterano, Wash.

There is much evangelistic interation in all the villages out from here + after much visitation + personal work - Bible classes of six days are held. Seventy converts from one village is very unusual. Mrs. Harvey in a little over a month made 1248 calls +

111 Korea for it. She has been in Bible class work + Bible Institute for years. They generally put up a stone tablet in honor. At noon a big Korean feast + many guests. We saw the table decorations this P.M. - a chicken baked - but had its head on + a pink paper in its mouth perched most life-like on a plate + 13 tall structures on plates of ~~persimmons~~ umas, dates, dried persimmons etc - - it was so interesting.

Last week the old amah the Reynolds had for twenty nine years came for a visit. She is so sweet - said love to talk to her. She comes in to make our beds + clean up! She doesn't know to but wants to! Bro ~~this~~ family all were invited out + Mrs. R. told us to invite 3 guests

10 every home in the village was visited + gospel given. That just amazed me in 1 mo. but that pace she can't keep up long!" I had such a good rest there slept 3 hrs. Sun. + 1½ Mon. P.M. It is so restful out there + they were surely lovely to us. We did appreciate it too. How gracious the Father is to give such joy to us + to give the inspiration for his work.

Today Miss Best of this station had a big celebration given her by the Koreans for her 10 birthday. They had a meeting this a.m. all celebrated this a.m. by giving her lovely gifts - a fine brass tray + food bowls - a chest over 200 years old all brass trimmed + so fine! a Korean silk dress + Koreans came from all over

12/ each + we had a nice dinner
party - She even had ice cream
+ strawberries for us!!
Still working away at Chinese
rather bit down a bit last week
+ wasted a bit of today but I
want to get one exam off this
week if I can!
My dear ones - bye for now - I'll
write again soon. I'll be
eagerly waiting news of all.
How my heart longs for you
Mother please don't think me too much a baby -
I do try to be brave for your sakes
but you know the hurt - I wonder
Mother do you need anything - is
the money available - Dad Father
make a will and leave it all so you'll
be well supplied. I can send
you some any time or every mo-
Goodnite mummie dear - may God's
sweet comfort + strength be yours
+ may He more than ever fill
up the lonely chinks in your heart
brave strong Mother mine -
All my love - Irene -